



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: January 11, 2007

Editorial Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. The minutes were approved with a change in verbiage.

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Renewals will be going out in March. Unknown if/how the proposed EPA changes will affect the renewals.

PT Program: WP-143 closes January 25th. Soil (failure) letters are going out now. WS study to be shipped on Monday (January 15th). If labs don't receive their shipment by Tuesday, call NJDEP/OQA.

ERA was purchased by Waters.

TNI (The NELAC Institute) Update: A meeting will be held in Denver the week of January 29. Mike Miller will be attending.

NJQLs: Joe Aiello (NJDEP/OQA) stated he expects all labs to receive a letter concerning NJQLs in mid-March. Submittal contents will be the same as previously. April through September 2007 will be the timeframe for data submittal. There will be one to three (or as many as needed) on-site training sessions at state locations, dates and locations to be announced. Instruction format is still unknown. NJ ELAC concerns are posted on the (NJDEP/OQA) website.

Bioassay: No report

Sludge (Biosolids): Working on the SQAR 2007 guidance document. Anthony Pilawski (NJDEP) plans to have the first piece out to those who have agreed to review it by the end of next week, starting at the tables in the metals section. Tony thanked the volunteers involved in this project.

Communications and OQA Website: The website is up to date.

Old Business

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: A PQL for Residual Chlorine needs to be developed. DMR limit is 0.1 but the state regs consider 0.05 "detectable." The field kits normally reach 0.05 to 0.1 mg/L but some can reach 0.02 mg/L. It was also questioned as to whether total or free chlorine was required.

PWTA: The PWTA Regulations are sunseting in September 2007. The regulations are being reevaluated but they NJDEP is leaning toward an “as is” readoption of the PWTA Rules. Changes to the perchlorate rule are currently in legal review and include an MCL of 5 ppb for perchlorate and a proposal to add perchlorate to the hazardous substance list in February 2007.

The EDWR database is expected to be in production next week. Agra, Brick MUA and GSL will be the primary entities to enter data then will be open to all, at the earliest in mid-February. The PWTA database will be the only means of submitting data and will not be voluntary. Laboratories will start using the EDWR system it this month to submit drinking water data on behalf of the public water systems.

Site Remediation: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-ODQ) stated the water rule has not yet been published, but may possibly be next week. SRP will require QAM, recently modified by the NJDEP, when the source is unknown and DRO or GRO if the source is known. Will allow 418.1 until June 30th then it will be QAM. Further technical discussion concerning the method followed, including cutting the method to specify carbon ranges, clean-up, (redi-mixed) standards, reporting values in four carbon ranges and fractionation (allophatic and aromatic). It was stated SRP would want only the total number for TPH.

It was questioned whether the NJDEP could notify the consultants about these pending changes. As only laboratories register with the NJDEP, only they can be directly notified.

It was reported NJSCC was still more than a year away until revision.

The limits and method for ethanol have yet to be determined although 8015B will be the probable method.

The technical regs (N.J.A.C. 7:26) are being reworked as they will be up next year. Full and reduced data deliverables will remain intact with a DMR-type sheet for others. Greg suggested two data packages – one paper for the client and one, a full data deliverables, on CD for the state’s archive. It was suggested labs include an “executive summary” in the front of each data package.

New Business:

Water Rule: Will update next month, hopefully it will have been published by then.

Lab Certification Fee Proposal: Joe Aiello (NJDEP/OQA) made a commitment to have the draft rule out of the OQA in two weeks. Rule still needs senior management and legal staff review and approval before publishing in the NJR. Labs will not see the fee changes in the March renewal packages this year but possibly in FY 09.

Phil Worby (QC Labs) asked if the NELAC secondary accreditation fees would be lower than the primary as there is less work involved. Joe Aiello (NJDEP/OQA) replied there would be no difference in fees.

Training: Tom Cady (Hampton-Clarke) proposed training seminars for the laboratory community. Training offered in other states, including NY's ethics training, and dues or fees were discussed. Volunteers for information sharing and agenda development will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Other: It was suggested the committee give a plaque to the outgoing chair, Harvey Klein. Joe Aiello said the NJDEP/OQA would provide the funds for this plaque as he would like to see all participants get their due reward.

There were not any other new issues. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on February 8, 2007 – 5th Floor Conference Room.

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